

REMARKS

Prior to an examination on the merits of the above-identified patent application, please enter the foregoing amendments.

Claims 11-23 are pending in the above-identified patent application, as presented in the Literal English Translation of P.C.T. Application No. PCT/CH03/00256, and has entered by the instant Preliminary Amendment. Claim 11 is the single claim presented in independent form.

The present application represents the U.S. National Phase of P.C.T. Application No. PCT/CH03/00256, filed April 15, 2003, and claiming foreign priority on the basis of a corresponding Switzerland patent application, filed April 17, 2002.

By the present amendments, original Claims 1-10 have been cancelled and substituted by new Claims 11-23, which are intended to conform more closely to U.S. claim practice.

Finally, a substitute Abstract of the Disclosure, on a separate sheet of paper, as required by 37 C.F.R. §1.72(b), and in conformance with U.S. practice, is also enclosed.

The application is now in condition for a full examination on the merits.